Women's Lib For Mrs. Mitchell?

Post 1/13/70

By Dorothy McCardle

Martha Mitchell is going to write a book and she may join the Women's Liberation Movement to prove her right to "speak out."

The controversial wife of Attorney General John Mitchell will start on her book "just as soon as we leave Washington."

She adds with a flippant laugh:

"That may be tomorrow!"

The most talkative of Nixon Cabinet wives chatted about her future plans Saturday night at a dinner dance given by Mr. and Mrs. Morse G. Dial Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. George K. Graeber at the Federal City Club at the Sheraton Carlton. The party saluted the first wedding anniversary of columnist Betty Beale and her husband, George Graeber.

Outspoken as ever, Mrs. Mitchell was mute on one point She would n o t say whether her husband had been awake and listening when she put in that 2 a.m. phone call to an Akansas newspaper after the defeat of Judge G. Harrold Carswell for the Supreme Court nomination last week.

The Attorney General was not saying either whether he had heard his wife ask the Arkansas edito r"to crucify" J. William Fulbright, the Arkansas senator who voted agains Carswell.

"I am always asleep," was his comment, with a grin.

About Martha's book:

"I am a sponge," she said. "I have been soaking up material and it's fabulous."

She was still talking, even on the dance floor when she was doing an energetic bugaloo with C. D. Ward, special assistant to Vice President Spiro T. Agnew.

"I think I'm going to join the W o m e n's Liberation Movement," she said over her shoulder. "As a woman, I have a right to speak up and be heard. Women ought to have a voice, too."

She is seeing Jan Bridge, the George Washington University student who won a contrest to interveiw her, again. She is going over the material he got from her last Friday during his second visit with her today.

"I reserved the right to go over what he has written," she said.

Hal Gould, amateur prophet, put his talents to work as after-dinner entertainer. He predicted to the amusement of the 200 guests that "Martha Martha Mitchell will help bridge the generation gap."

He glanced at Lynda Johnson Robb and her husband, Marine Maj. Charles S. Robb, who expect their second child in May, and predicted that Robb will get a military assignment that will "take him off diaper duty."

The Robbs had come from seeing Lynda's parents, former President and Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson, off on their plane for Texas after a week's visit in Washington.

It was one of the season's most swinging parties, with few sit-outs from the dance floor. White House Social Secretary, Rose May Woods, were in constant demand as partners by the many diplomats present.

Alice Roosevelt Longworth preferred talking to dancing. But hostesses Perle Mesta and Gwen Cafritz were among the swingers.

Four cabinet officers put their heads together when not on the dance floor. Those who seemed to have a lot to talk about together were Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Robert H. Finch, Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin and Postmaster General Winton M. Blount.

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